

REMARKS

By this amendment, claims 1-21 have been cancelled, claims 22 and 24 have been amended. Thus, claims 22-24 are now active in the application. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested.

In item 12 on page 10 of the Office Action, the Examiner kindly indicated that claims 22-24 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Accordingly, in order to expedite allowance of this application, claims 1-21 have been cancelled, and each of claims 22 and 24 has been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim 1.

Accordingly, it is submitted that the application is now clearly in condition for allowance, in accordance with the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter. An early notice thereof is earnestly solicited.

If, after reviewing this Amendment, the Examiner feels there are any issues remaining which must be resolved before the application can be passed to issue, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned by telephone in order to resolve such issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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